SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, let me answer that. Under the old formula of 1923, we are getting 3.5 paise per litre and I would like to inform the Members that the total amount does not exceed Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 11 crores for the whole country and that amount of money we are distributing for the repairs of the roads.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Yashwant Sinha.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, the projects which the Minister is mentioning and which are likely to be taken up as National Highways, obviously, are under the old dispensation, under the old policy. What I would like to know from the Minister is whether, in view of the liberalisation which this Government has brought about, it is the Minister's policy or his Ministry's policy that the National Highways construction will also be made open to the public sector and that more projects would be taken up by or through the private sector in this respect.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, as far as our Ministry is concerned, are keen to open up the construction of the National Highways and Expressways to the private sector. But I cannot do it because there is a lacuna in the law and I am very soon coming up with a little change in the law which will allow us to open up the Highways and Expressways to the private people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 245.

*245. [*The questioners (Shri Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare and Shri Bekal Utsahi)* were absent. For answer *vide* Col. 33-34 infra]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 246. Shri Vithalbhai M. Patel.

Supply of coal to Thermal Power Stations in Gujarat

*246. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:†
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1088 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1991 and state:

(a) what is the requirement of coal for the Thermal Power Stations in Gujarat;

(b) what is the amount of coal sanctioned by the Central Govern- the total requirement of Gujarat; and

(c) whether there has been adequate supply to the Thermal Power Station in Gujarat against the sanctioned linkage of coal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by Central Electricity Authority, the require ment of coal for thermal power stations in Gujarat based on their generation target for the period April to November '91 was 68.59 lakh tonnes. Against this demand the linkage given by Standing Linkage Committee was 95.6 lakh tonnes. According to provisional data furnishe by Coal India Lttd., the actual despatch during the same period has been 71.1 lakh tonnes which works out to 103.6 per cent of demand.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Coal India Ltd. has introduced a Cash and Carry scheme for coal from 1st October, 1991. As on 4th November 1991, the Gujarat Electricity Board has paid Rs. 51.25 crores towards advance payment for coal. In spite of this, the coal receipts during October 1991

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Vithalbhai M. Patel.

were 75 per cent in terms of wagons and 65 per cent in terms of tonnage. May I know from the Hon. Minister, when you take money in advance is it not your duty to supply coal also in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Sir, as my colleague has already stated, the requirement of coal for a particular thermal plant is assessed and decided by the Central electricity Authority. According to them, the requirement of power plant in Gujarat is 68.59 lakh tonnes. Against this demand, we have supplied 71.1 lakh tonnes. The supply is to the tune of 103 per cent increase. Sir, if you come to the generation part of it, the Gujarat thermal power station were to generate 8.07 billion units during April and November. As against this target the Gujarat Electricity Board has produced 8.404 billion units, which is 4 per cent more than the target of generation of power in Gujarat. Sir, we do not claim that we are meeting 100 per cent of the requirement. But then whatever possible we are doing and the very fact that they have been able to generate more than 104 per cent of their target, I think the supply position really cannot be said to be that bad.

In any case the Chief Minister of Gujarat is here in town. I had a long session with him the day before yesterday. This was followed by a meeting at the officers' level. And if there is any more need to be done from our side, we will try our best.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: I think the Minister has not heard me. My question was different and you are giving me something else. (*Interruptions*). You have introduced a Cash and Carry Scheme. Under that scheme the Gujarat Electricity Board deposited Rs. 51.25 crores. Even then you have supplied only 65 per cent of coal, not 100 per cent. When you take money in advance, is it not your duty to supply coal for which you have taken the money?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I am grateful to Gujarat. They have been very cooperative in implementing our policy of Cash and Carry. (*Interruptions*). Sir, one of the problems why Coal India has suffered losses so much is that there was a huge amount of money overdue from Electricity Boards—to the tune of about Rs. 2800 crores, including all the States. And this money was blocked. And since this money was not available to Coal India, we had to resort to more borrowings from banks, and for this we had to pay more interest and the financial position of Coal India was very bad. Therefore, from the 1st of October I was very firm that those who want coal have to pay first and then they will get coal. I am very happy to inform the House that the Gujarat State. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Sir, the question is about Gujarat.

AN HON. MEMBER: Don't generalise the question. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I do not have the exact figures for Gujarat. But the point remains that Gujarat also owes a lot of dues.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under your "cash and carry", they have given you money. You have not carried the coal. What have you to say about that?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I do not have the exact figures as to how much money in advance Gujarat has paid. Of course, the hon. Member said that they have paid Rs. 51 crores. I have no reason to disbelieve him...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you will find out.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: But the point is that we have supplied coal to them, and their generation has

gone up by 104 per cent which means we have supplied coal. There could be some shortfall. I have said that we have discussed the matter with the Chief Minister of Gujarat. He is still in the town. If necessary, I told the Chief Minister, we can meet for the second time. So, we are. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What is the meaning of "cash and carry"?

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Bring the cash, carry the receipt and not coal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chhotubhai Patel.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Sir, the Coal...

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल हो गया।

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Sir, this is my second part.

श्री सभापति: आपके दो सवाल हो गए।

I have called Shri Chhotubhai Patel.

SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL: Sir, so far as the industry is concerned, Gujarat is a developing State. And Gujarat is suffering more for a long period as it is not getting adequate coal. I want to know whether there is no linkage between the Coal Ministry and the Railway Ministry. Is it true, Sir, that there is gross negligence on the part of the concerned Department?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, it is our duty to take coal to all the sectors of the economy. There is coordination. It is not a fact that there is no coordination between the Railways and the Coal India. In fact, at the Cabinet Secretariat level, Sir, we have a Secretary, in charge of coordination. And the movement of coal to every sector, to every State is monitored on weekly basis by the Cabinet Secretariat itself, and wherever it is possible, we are trying our best to fulfil their demands.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि ताप बिजली घरों को कोयले की आपूर्ति करने के लिए कोल इंडिया ने एक योजना तैयार की थी कि उनको डेडिकेटेड माईन्ज ही दे दी जाएं ताकि वह स्वयं खनन करें और अपने कोयले की पूर्ति करें। तो क्या इसी तरह की कोई योजना पर अभी विचार चल रहा है? यदि चल रहा है तो क्या गुजरात के ताप बिजली घरों को इस तरह से कोयले की आपूर्ति करवाने का प्रयत्न करेंगे?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Why did you give me time, Sir, to ask the question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid on the Table.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Formulation of a New Tourism Policy

*243. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Tourism Year' being observed in the country has failed to take off;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to give a boost to tourism during the year 1992;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether Government also propose to formulate a new tourism policy; and